

Patricia Moore
245 Lake Rd
Warren, CT
06777

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Dear Committee Members,

I am opposed to HB 5653 An Act Establishing an Excise Tax on Ammunition to Provide Funding for Community Gun Violence and Intervention Program Grants.

Plain and simply put, HB 5653 will be penalizing law abiding gun owners again! Purchasing of ammunition is essential to develop and maintain shooting skills as a gun owner. There is no good reason that law abiding gun owners should contribute to this funding that will essentially negatively affect their Second Amendment rights while our justice system does nothing to arrest, prosecute and incarcerate the criminals that plague our society. That would be a deterrent. Criminals are not deterred by these tax laws.

This is essentially a tax that will directly discriminate against some of the very people that need to protect themselves the most in the underprivileged sectors of our society, the inner city business owners, and the people who have been victimized previously.

This is clearly a measure to limit the purchase of ammunition for personal gun owners. Another incremental excise tax under the guise of making our communities safer is a round about way to infringe on ones Second Amendment rights without directly saying so. We do notice this tactic.

In addition to state sales tax, law abiding gun owners already participate in an excise tax paid by gun manufacturers, importers, and wholesalers that trickles down to between 10% and 11% for gun and ammunition purchases. I understand that this contributes to wildlife conservation and natural resources in this state. Which I might add, is enjoyed by non-gun owners as well.

I urge the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee to oppose this tax.

Respectfully,
Patricia Moore